Marvel

William Heinemann Ltd. 1994.

6th May '94
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THOMAS THE TANK ENGINE & FRIENDS

Based on the Railway Series by The Rev. W. Awdry.

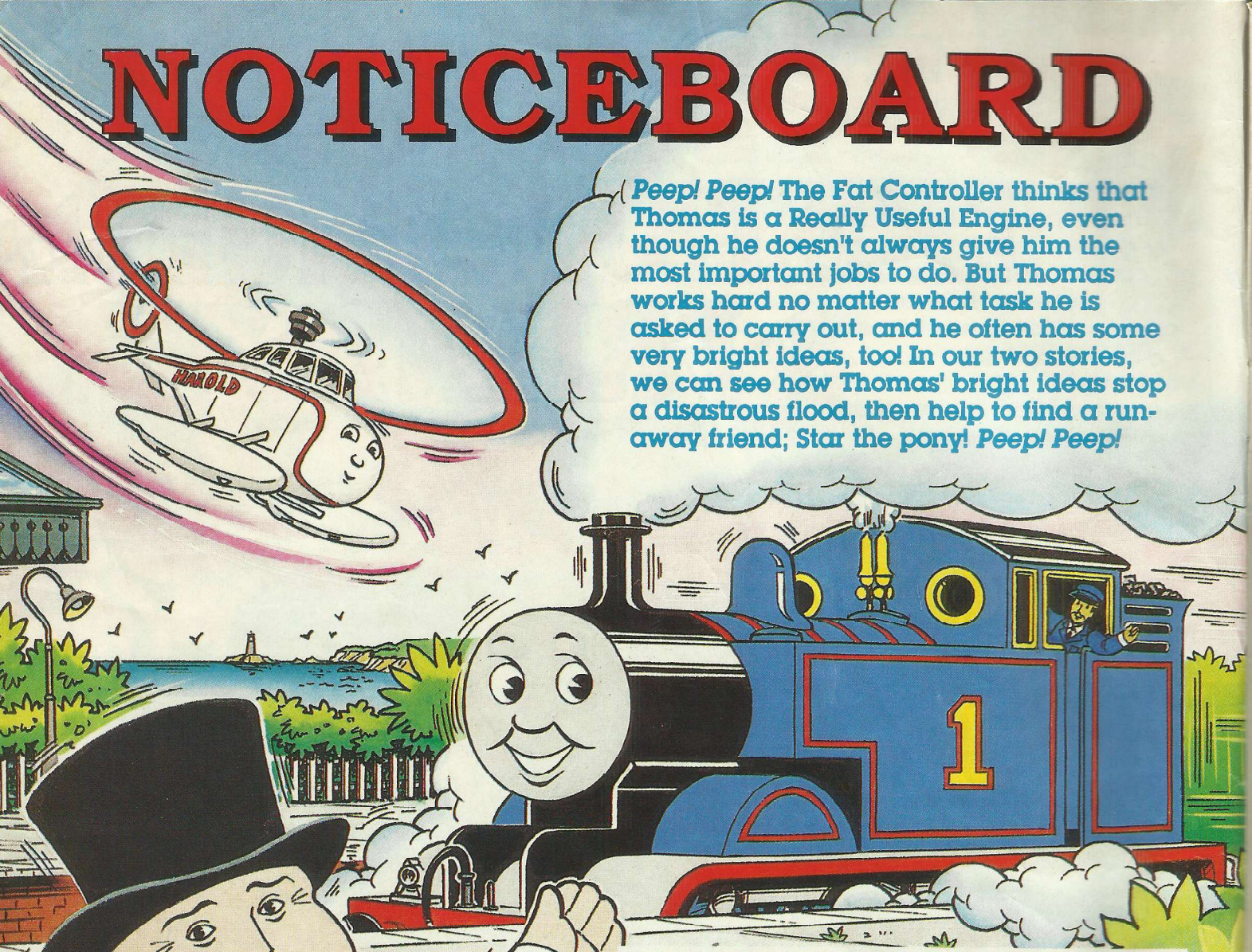
TOMY Pre-School Competition. Part 1 INSIDE!

The brass band has started to play,
Now that Thomas has saved the day!

9 770954 939053 18

NOTICEBOARD

Peep! Peep! The Fat Controller thinks that Thomas is a Really Useful Engine, even though he doesn't always give him the most important jobs to do. But Thomas works hard no matter what task he is asked to carry out, and he often has some very bright ideas, too! In our two stories, we can see how Thomas' bright ideas stop a disastrous flood, then help to find a run-away friend; Star the pony! *Peep! Peep!*



2 PART COMPETITION!

Turn to page **16** to collect **Token No.1** of our 2-part **Pre-School Competition!** Token No.2 will appear in our next issue!

How to obtain your Fat Controller's Card!

If you would like to receive your very own, splendid **Fat Controller's Card** send one red, yellow and blue token together with your details listed below (details need only be listed on any one of the 3 coloured tokens when applying for this offer) plus a stamped addressed envelope to: **The Fat Controller's Card Offer, Marvel Comics Ltd, 13/15 Arundel Street, London WC2.**

Name .....

Address .....

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Age .....

Postcode .....

THOMAS TOKEN

ABC CONSUMER PRESS

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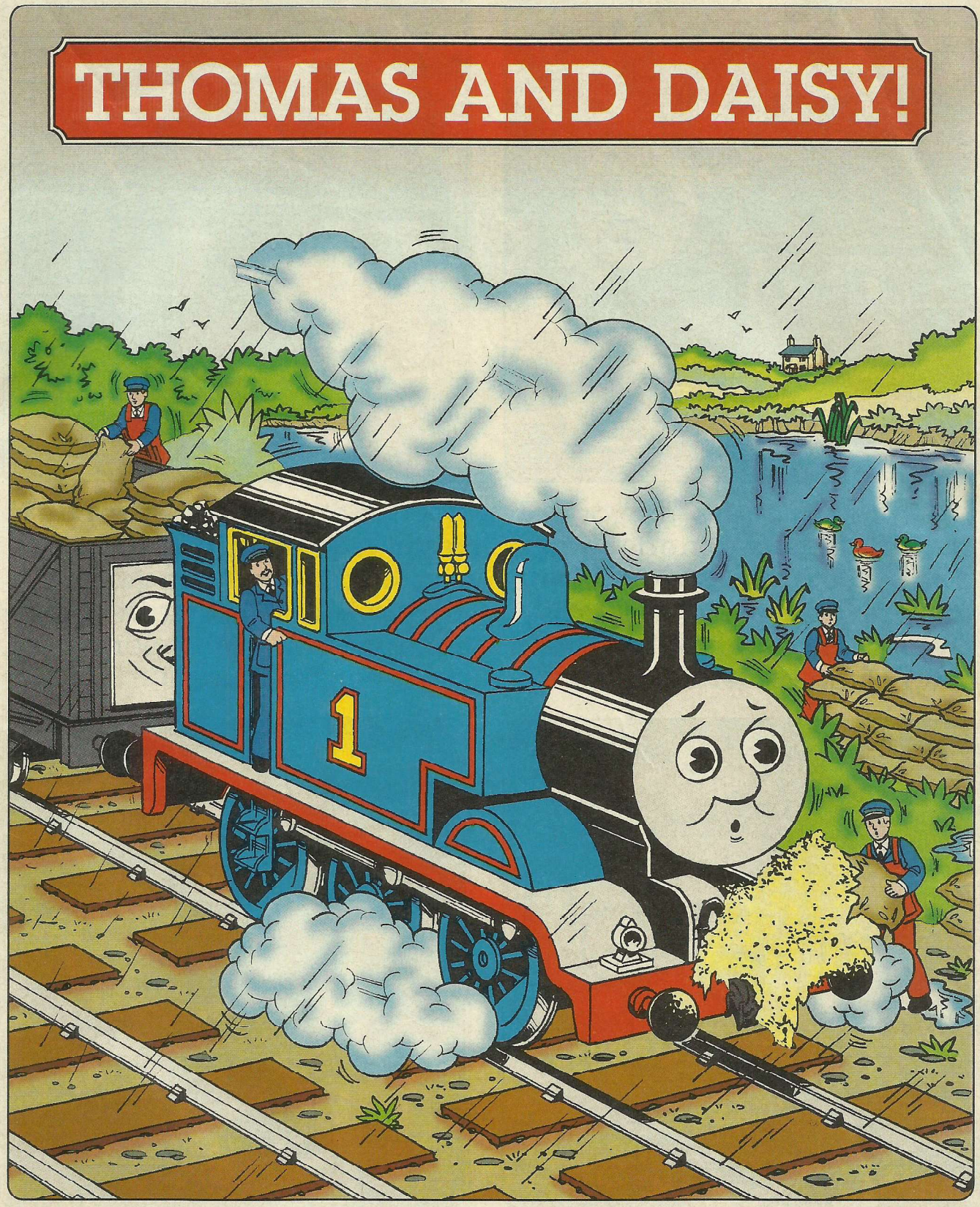
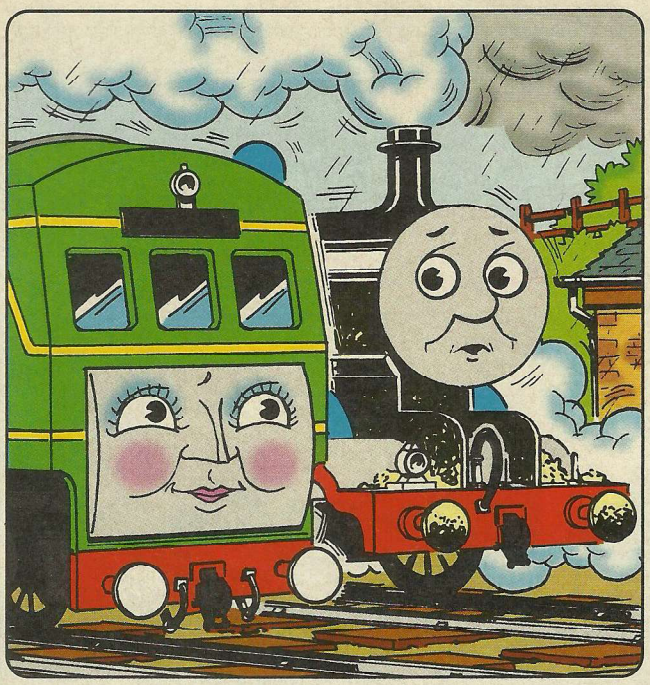
THOMAS AND DAISY!



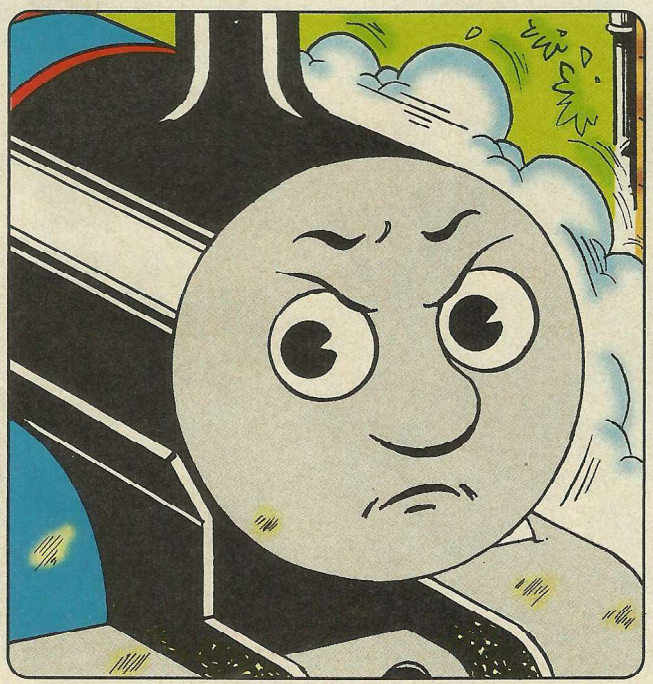
1. Heavy rain had swelled Sodor's lakes and rivers. Thomas was busy fetching sandbags so workmen could protect low-lying sections of track from floodwater.

2. It was hard work and it was very messy and dirty too. A workman dropped a heavy sandbag while unloading it from a truck. The sand burst out all over Thomas.

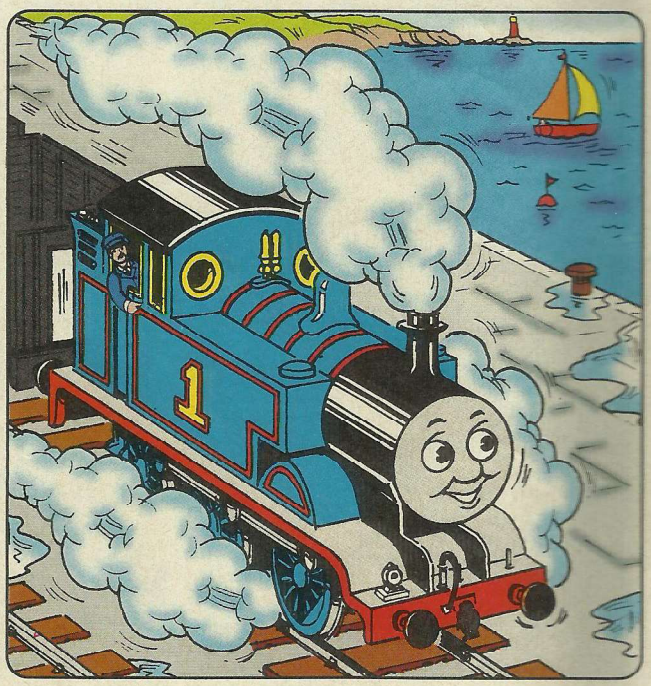


3. What a mess he looked when he returned to the Main Station yard. "Keep away from me!" said Daisy. "I'm a thoroughly modern and clean diesel railcar!"

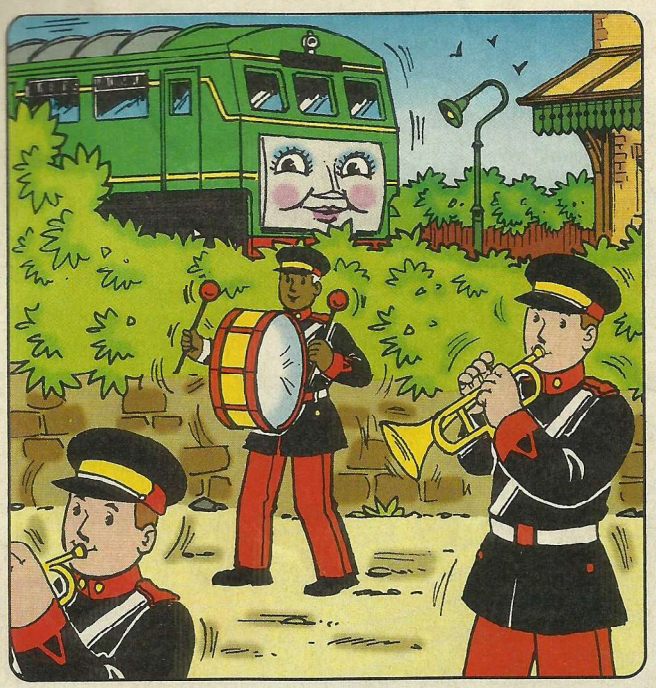
4. "I don't want sand all over my shiny paintwork," she cried, "as I am taking a brass band to Wellsworth tomorrow for the opening of the new Town Hall!"



5. "Carrying sandbags is just as important as carrying passengers," said Thomas. "I'm sure the Fat Controller thinks I'm being Really Useful, too!"

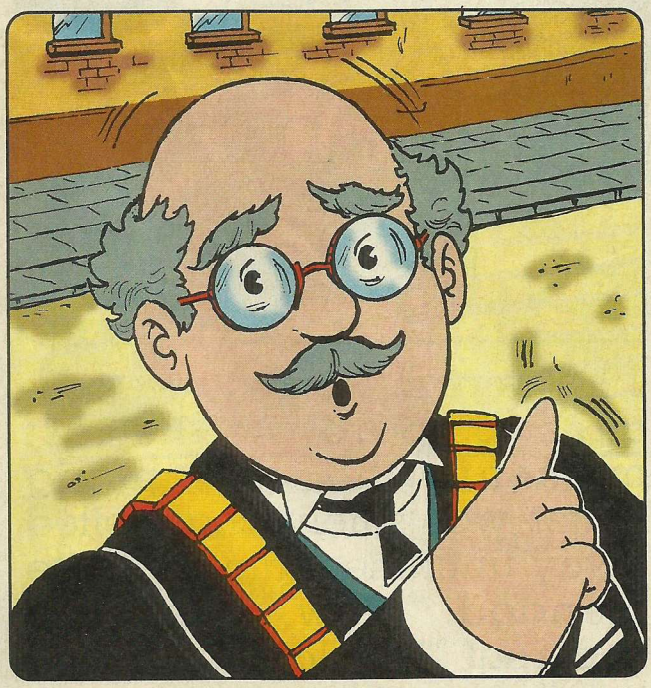


6. The next day was very sunny as Daisy rolled smoothly out of the shed to collect the band. Thomas set off for the Big Harbour to fetch a large shipment of sandbags.

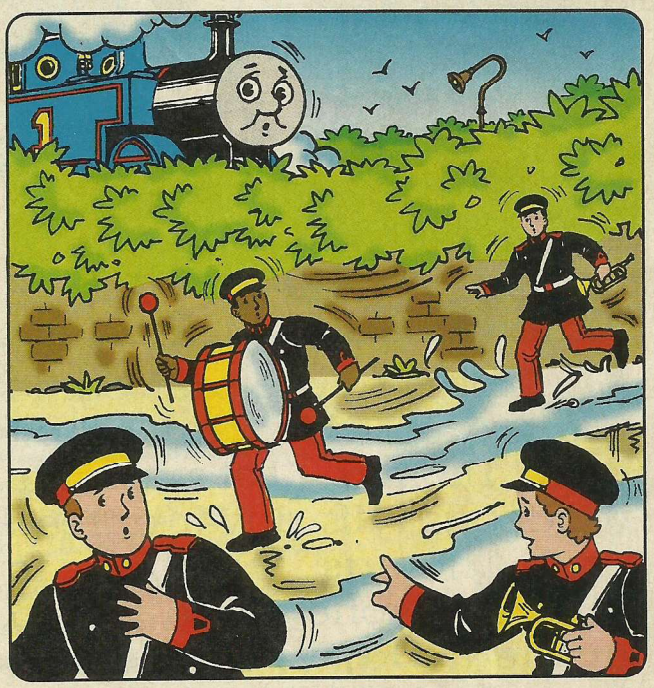


7. By the time he returned, Thomas could hear the band playing as it marched up Wellsworth's high street. Daisy was watching in a siding at the station.

8. A crowd had gathered and the Mayor of Wellsworth was about to cut a ribbon tied across the new Town Hall door. Suddenly, water gushed down the street.



9. It surged towards the Town Hall and the alarmed crowd outside. "Look out! A water main has burst!" warned the Mayor. "The new Town Hall will be flooded!"



10. "Ring for the fire-brigade!" someone cried, as people scattered to escape the water. "It's too late! They'll never get here in time!" replied the Mayor.

11. Closer and closer came the water. "We can help!" cried Thomas. "Let's use the sandbags!" His driver agreed and Thomas whistled to alert everyone as he pulled up near Daisy, at the station. Rail staff and volunteers quickly unloaded the sandbags and used them to build a low wall around the Town Hall.

12. The plan worked with seconds to spare. At the last moment, the advancing water was safely channelled away until the main could be mended. How everyone cheered! "Thomas has saved the day and the Town Hall!" said the Mayor. "Sandbags are as important as passengers, after all," Daisy told a proud Thomas.

THE END!

In our next issue: The special driver!

A FREE NOTEBOOK AND PENCIL!

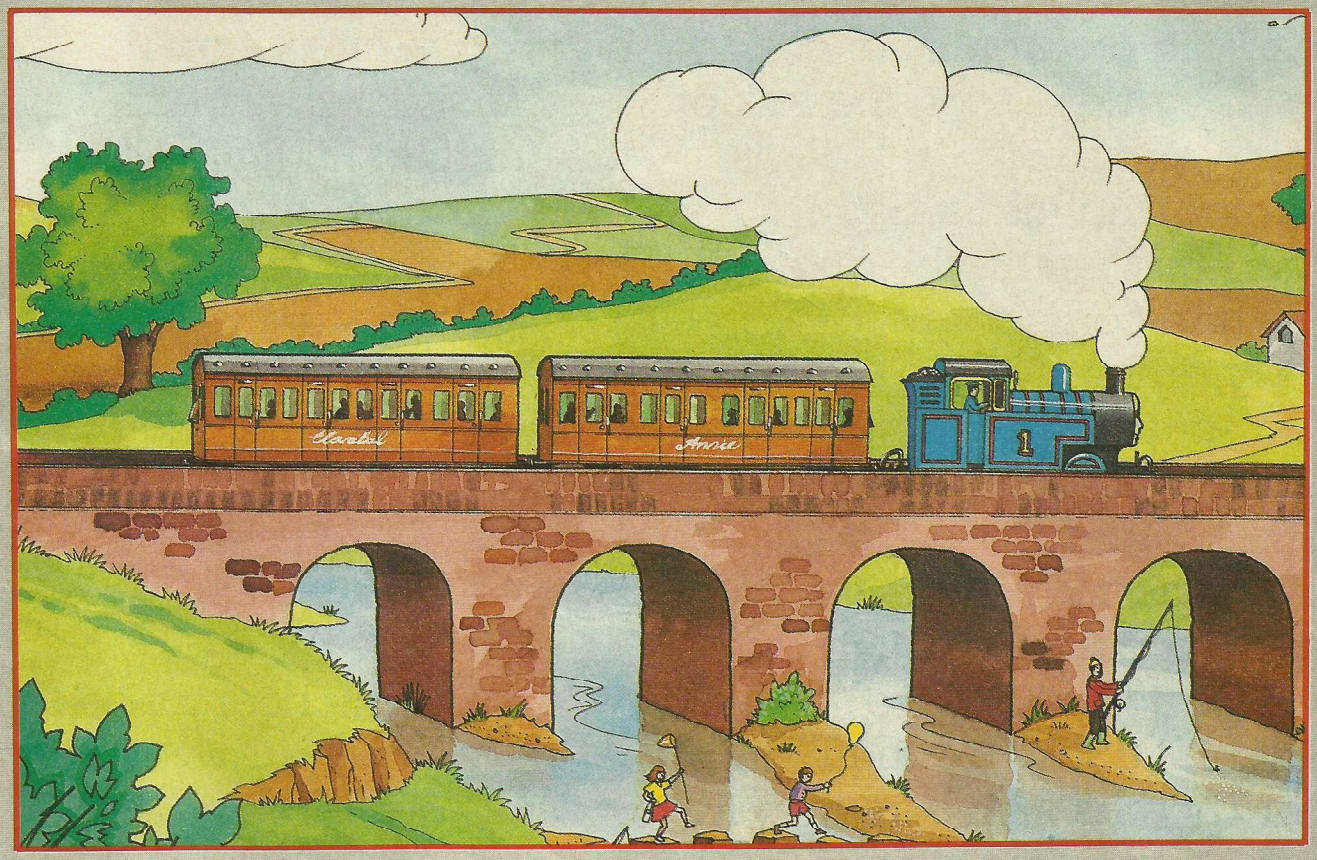
Give your child a great present by subscribing to Thomas's very own magazine ...

NEW 6-MONTHLY SUBSCRIPTION!

For just £18.00 (**£35.00** overseas), your child will be sent **Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends** every fortnight for a whole year – or for **£10.00 (£18.00** overseas) you can subscribe for **6 months.**

EXTRA WITH SUBSCRIPTION

Your child will receive a FREE Thomas the Tank Engine Notebook and Pencil plus their own personalised **Fat Controller's Card** enabling them to enter special offers and competitions frequently open to **Fat Controller's Card** holders only.



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Address .....

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Date of birth .....

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☐ I enclose a cheque/postal order for £____ made payable to Marvel Comics Ltd.

☐ Please charge my ☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard with £____

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Parent's/donor's name Mr/Mrs/Ms .....

Address (if different from child's) .....

.....

..... Postcode .....

Please send to: **Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends Subscriptions, PO Box 500, Leicester, LE99 0AA.**

(Tick boxes where appropriate)

THOMAS AND TREVOR!

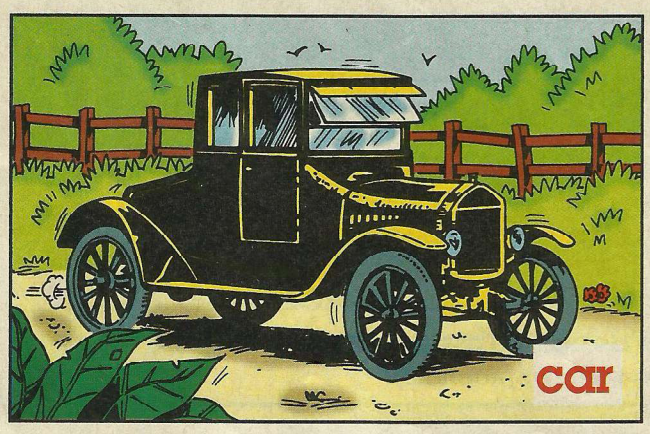
As Thomas worked busily on his branch line, one afternoon, he spotted a very strange old car motoring steadily along a road, near the track.

Back at the Main Station, he heard that Percy and Duck had both seen unusual cars, too. They were soon the talk of the engine shed.
Thomas and his friends wondered where the ancient cars had come from.

"My driver told me there's to be a special meeting on Saturday," said Henry. "It's called a Vintage Car Rally. Lots of grand old cars will take part in a parade, before the owners do a test drive!"

"I wish I could see them all," said Thomas. "I'm sure they'll make a splendid sight!"

"Not as so grand as a steam-engine rally!" sniffed James, importantly.



By the time Saturday morning came around, there were posters all over the Island of Sodor advertising the rally. Thomas was pulling a goods train on his branch line when he had to stop at a signal near Trevor the Traction Engine's shed in the Vicarage Orchard. Trevor looked depressed.

"I've been stuck in this shed for weeks," he told Thomas sadly. "Sometimes I think I've been completely forgotten! Tell me what's been happening!"

When he heard about the car rally, Trevor felt even more miserable to be left alone while there was so much excitement that day. The signal changed and Thomas set off again. He had only just steamed around a bend when he had to wait at a level-crossing, where one of the vintage cars had broken down.

"I'll never get to the rally," called the driver, anxiously.

"The nearest garage is miles away!"

"But Trevor isn't," Thomas told his driver. Luckily, the vicar was approaching. He hurried off to fetch Trevor and his driver, Jem Cole.

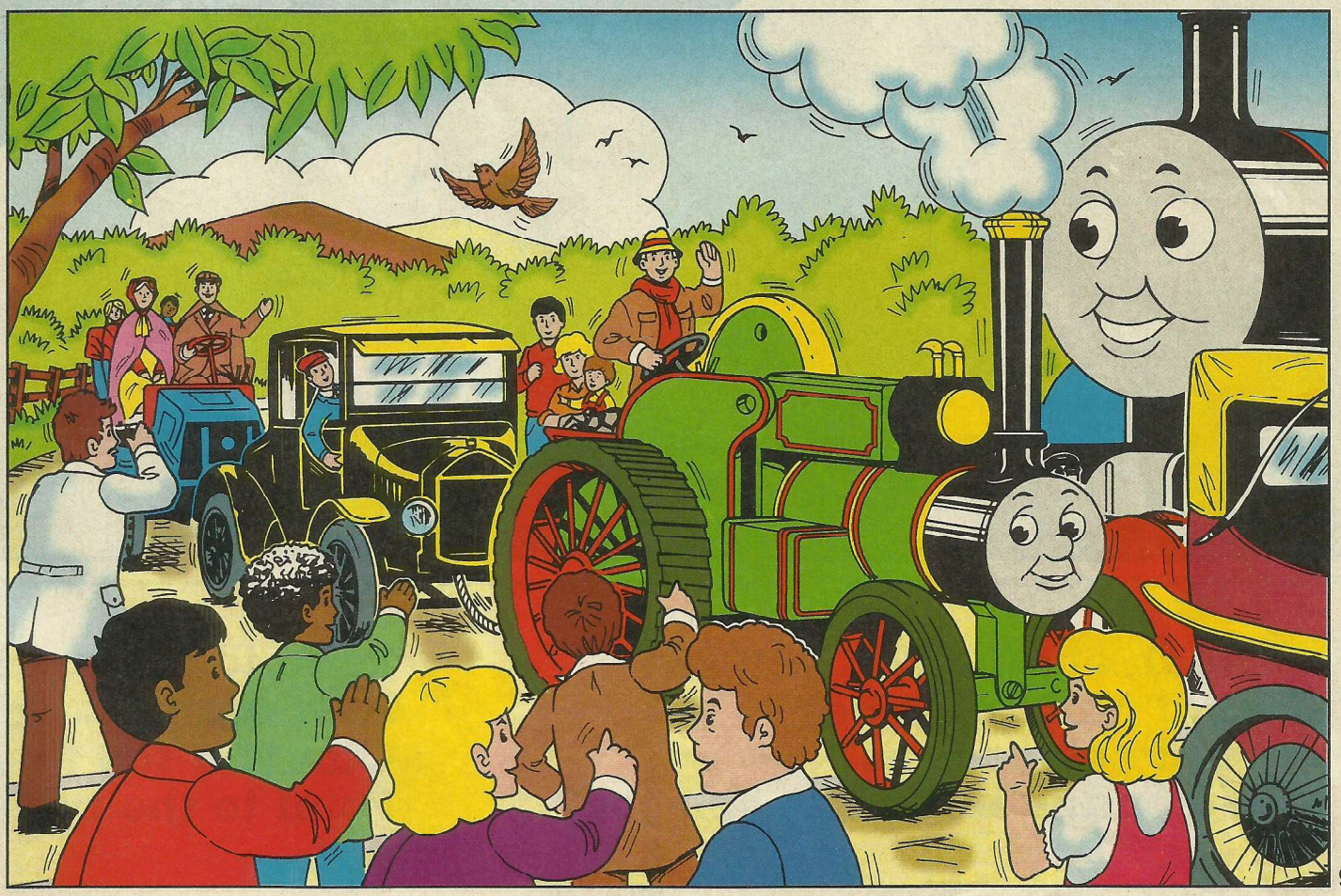
Shortly, Trevor came chugging into view. A tow-rope was tied to the vintage car and Trevor pulled it off the crossing so Thomas could continue his journey. He had to travel to the far end of the branch line. By the time Thomas returned, he saw a big crowd lining the roadside.

How people cheered as the parade of magnificent old cars went by. Thomas stared in surprise because Trevor was among them, still proudly towing the car that had broken down. Everyone was delighted to see such a splendid Traction Engine, too. A newspaper photographer even took Trevor's picture.

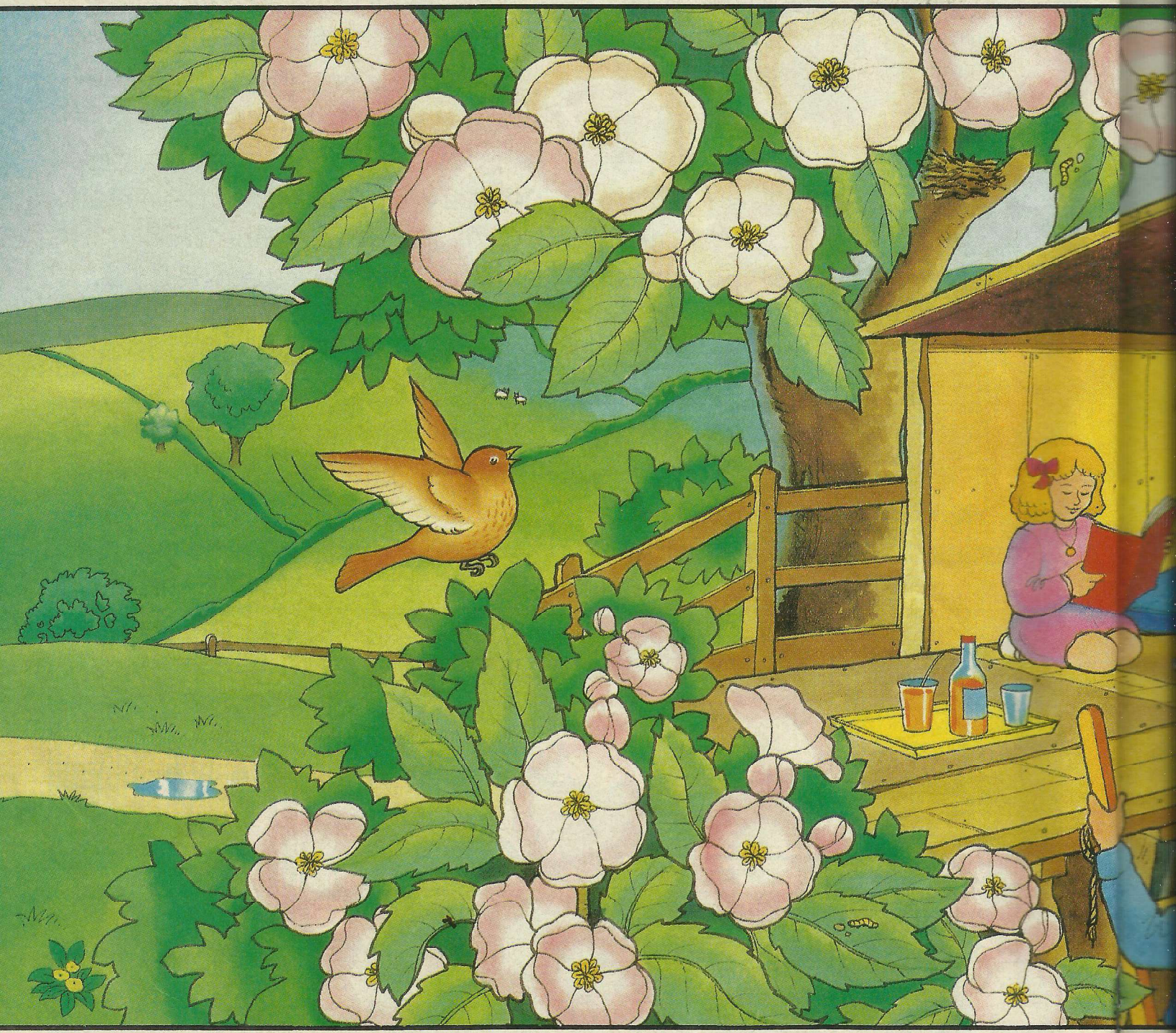
"Poop! Poop!" Trevor whistled happily to Thomas who rolled slowly past, across some points. "I never dreamed I'd be in the rally!"

"Now everyone can see what a Really Useful Traction Engine you are!" replied Thomas, kindly.

THE END!



Past the tr



Which engine can you see?
What number is he?
What colour is he?
How many birds can you see?

Point to the treehouse!
How many children ar
Can you see the ladde
Point to the bell!

ree house!

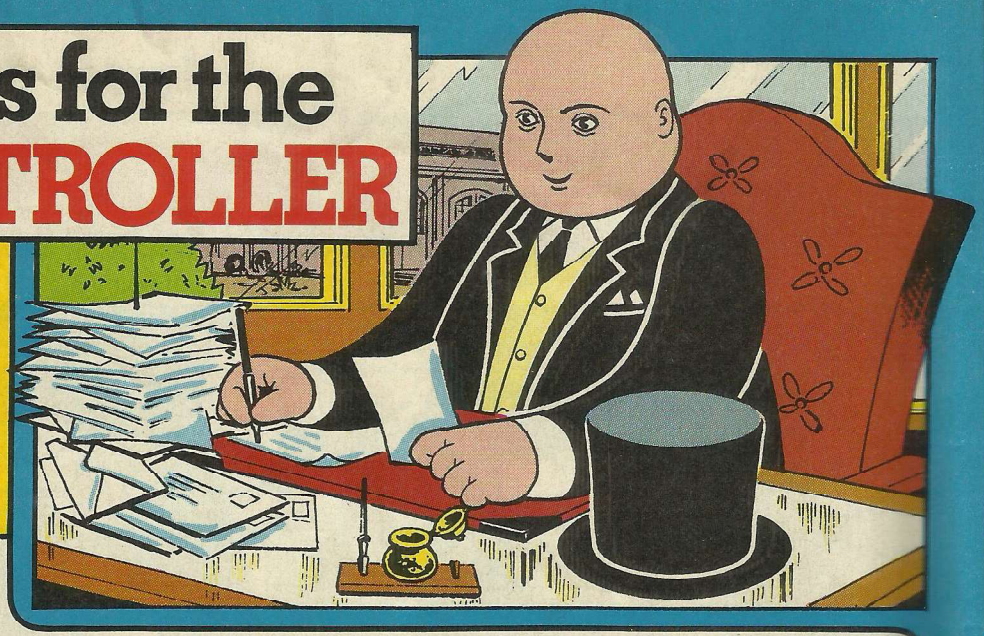
nouse!
ren are sitting inside it?
ladder?

Note for parents

This page is designed to form part of a colourful mural for your child's bedroom, playgroup or classroom. After you have finished reading the comic with your child, remove this part of the centrespread by cutting along the dotted line. There will be a 'mural page' in every issue of **Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends.** Why not collect each one and watch Thomas and his friends puff all round the room!

In our next issue: It's games day!

Your letters for the FAT CONTROLLER



Have you got an amusing story to tell? Do you have a question you would like to ask about Thomas or his friends? If so, then write to me at the address shown below! I would be so very pleased to hear from you!

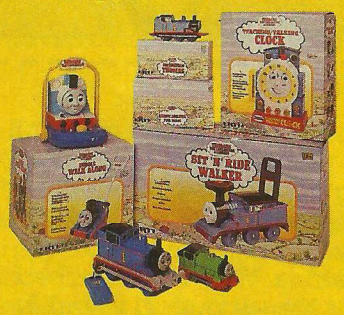
STAR LETTER!

Dear Fat Controller,
I would like to know if the engines keep you very busy and if they work at night? Do all the engines sleep in the same railway station?

Love from **Richard Cole**, aged 4.

The main tasks around the Island of Sodor railway are completed during daytime hours. However, important rescue work is often undertaken in the evenings. The little engines, such as Thomas and Percy live at Ffarquhar which is at the end of Thomas's branch line. All the bigger engines, such as Gordon live at Tidmouth!

The sender of any letter that is printed as our **STAR LETTER** will win some splendid **Thomas Pre-school** toys courtesy of *ERTL (UK) Ltd.*



RAILWAY KNOWLEDGE!

Dear Fat Controller,
My daddy works on the railway track and when I am older, I want to be a train driver. Daddy says that it is important for the 'fish plates' to be oiled. What are they for, and why is it important?

Love from **Luke Goodwin**, aged 4.

'Fish plates' are flat metal plates that are used to join rails together. Each connection needs to be oiled so that the rails are flexible and able to expand in hot weather.

NUMBERED ENGINES!

Dear Fat Controller,
I know all the engines' names, numbers and colours but which engines are No.8 and No.9?

Love from **Jake**, aged 2.

Duck the Great Western Pannier Engine is No.8 on my railway and he is always busy and cheerful! Donald is No.9 and he is Douglas's Scottish twin.

BIRTHDAYS!

Matthew John Crump, David Bowden, Sam Mercer, Edward Martin, Claire Larcombe, Amy Richards, Shane Harry Dadds, John Lee Clarke, Steven Alderson, Nick Robinson, Jay Stuckey, Peter William Goffey, Richard Holland, Richard Green, David Rowan Edorall, Anthony George Rosier, Richard Colley, Jamie Harvey, David Tinley, Angus Prosser, Sarah Howells, Michael David Durell, Daniel Peet and belated greetings to Carl Kenneth Allen, Robert Cooper, Robin and Katie Green. Special greetings go out to Brian Brown.

If you would like a birthday mention printed in one of our future issues, please send details on a postcard at least **nine weeks** in advance.

Yours,
Sir Topham Hatt
The Fat Controller!

Send your letters to:

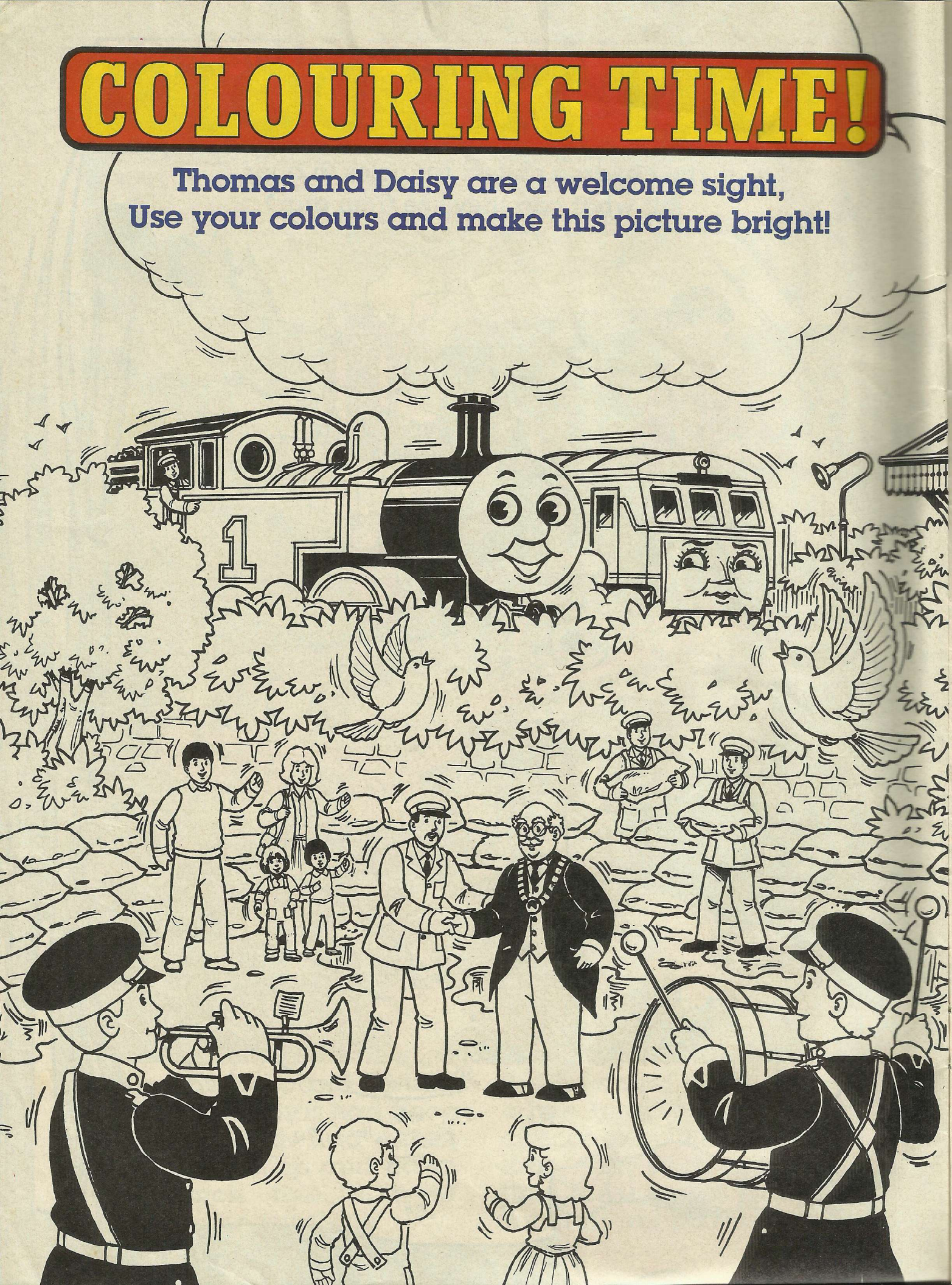
The Fat Controller
The Island of Sodor
c/o Marvel Comics Ltd
13/15 Arundel Street
London WC2.

JOIN THE DOTS!

The children collect tadpoles in a jar,
But what can they see from afar?

COLOURING TIME!

Thomas and Daisy are a welcome sight,
Use your colours and make this picture bright!



Kellogg's® COCO POPS® CRISP CHOCOLATEY BUBBLES

THE CHOCOLATEY CHALLENGE!

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MMM, WE LOVE CHOCOLATEY THINGS!

HI! COCO MONKEY HERE TO INTRODUCE MY TWO NEW FRIENDS

THESE ARE TWO INCREDIBLE ALIENS WHO CHANGE COLOUR WHENEVER THEY EAT ANYTHING CHOCOLATEY. THEY ARE VERY EXCITED AND MAKING FUNNY SQUEAKING NOISES BECAUSE COCO MONKEY HAS A SPECIAL CHOCOLATEY SURPRISE FOR THEM!

COCO MONKEY HAS DECIDED TO GIVE HIS FRIENDS SOME DELICIOUS KELLOGG'S COCO POPS IN A SPECIAL TASTE TEST

IN MY RIGHT HAND I HAVE SOME SCRUMMY KELLOGG'S COCO POPS AND IN MY LEFT, I HAVE A SURPRISE CEREAL!

OK MY FRIENDS, IT'S TIME FOR THE 'CHOCOLATEY CHALLENGE'. HERE ARE YOUR SPECIAL BLINDFOLDS - SO NO PEEKING .... AND NOW TELL ME WHICH IS THE MOST CHOCOLATEY OF THE TWO?

MMM, YUM, YUM, DELICIOUS!

XO+!!??!!@#

CHOCOMETER

THE ALIENS ARE SO EXCITED AND DIP THEIR SPOONS INTO THE CRISP CHOCOLATEY BUBBLES, MAKING ALL SORTS OF PECULIAR ALIEN SOUNDS. COCO MONKEY STARTS TO LAUGH AS THE ALIENS TURN BROWN UP TO THEIR WAISTS AND THE CHOCOMETER STARTS TO GO UP!

NOW FOR THE REAL TEST, EVERYBODY. HERE'S MY NEW IMPROVED PACK OF KELLOGG'S COCO POPS WITH ITS EVEN MORE SUPER FUN CHOCOLATEY TASTE. LET'S SEE WHAT HAPPENS NOW!!

NOW EVEN MORE CHOCOLATEY

I WONDER WHAT THESE ARE?

"TERRIFIC"

THEN RIGHT BEFORE COCO MONKEY'S EYES, THE BRIGHT GREEN ALIENS TURN COMPLETELY BROWN!

CHOCOMETER

AS YOU CAN SEE, NEW KELLOGG'S COCO POPS IS NOW EVEN MORE CHOCOLATEY! NOT ONLY DOES THE MILK TURN A LOVELY CHOCOLATEY BROWN BUT SO DO MY FRIENDS!

AS THE ALIENS SQUEAK WITH DELIGHT AT THE DELICIOUS TASTE, THE CHOCOMETER GOES SO FAR UP THAT... BANG... IT EXPLODES!

Kellogg's Coco Pops now taste even more chocolatey!!

COMPETITION!

Pre-School Competition Token No.1.

Our lucky prize winner will receive the complete ERTL range of Pre-school toys (all featured on this page). Collect your first token from the top right hand corner of this page and send it with part 2 from our next issue!

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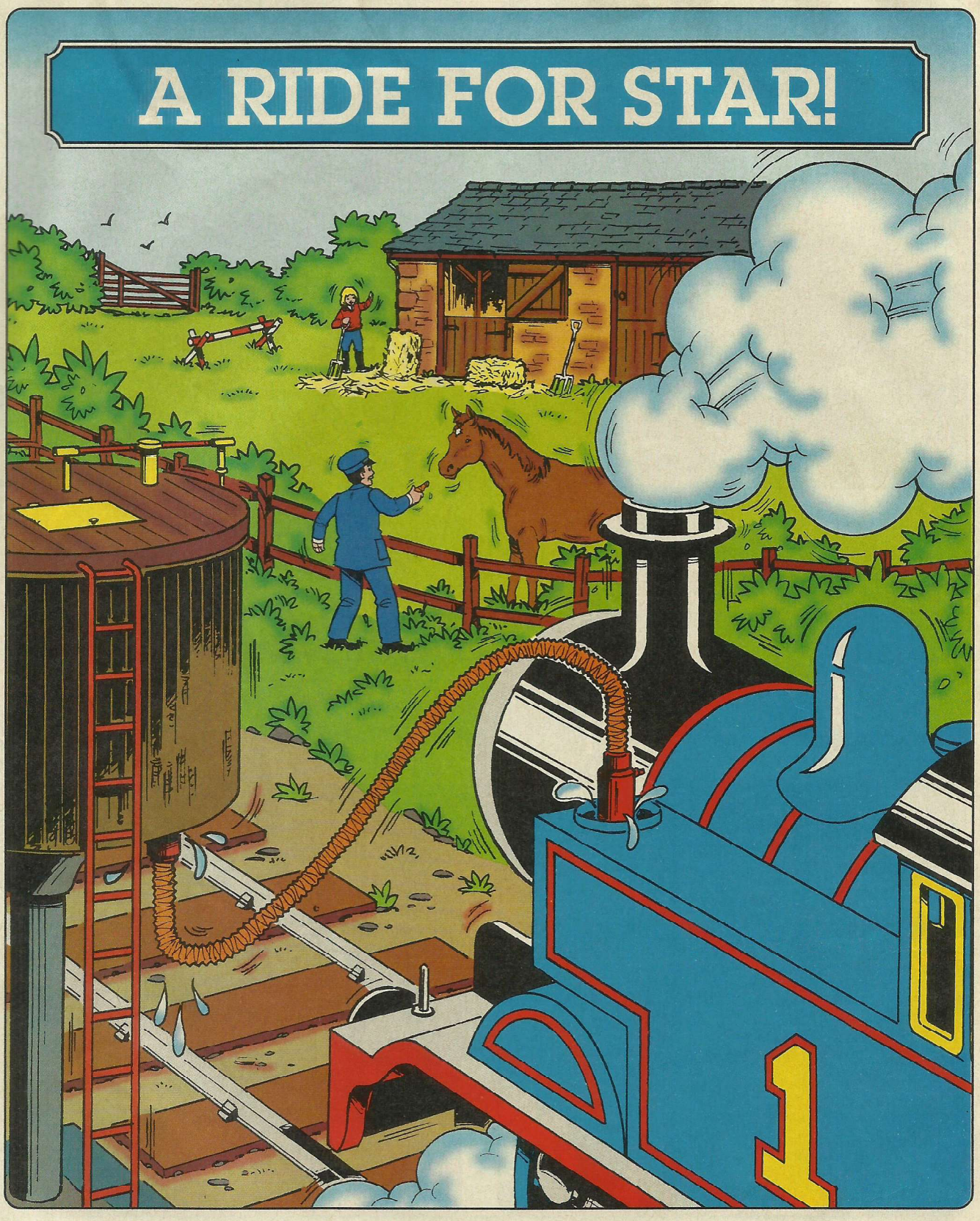
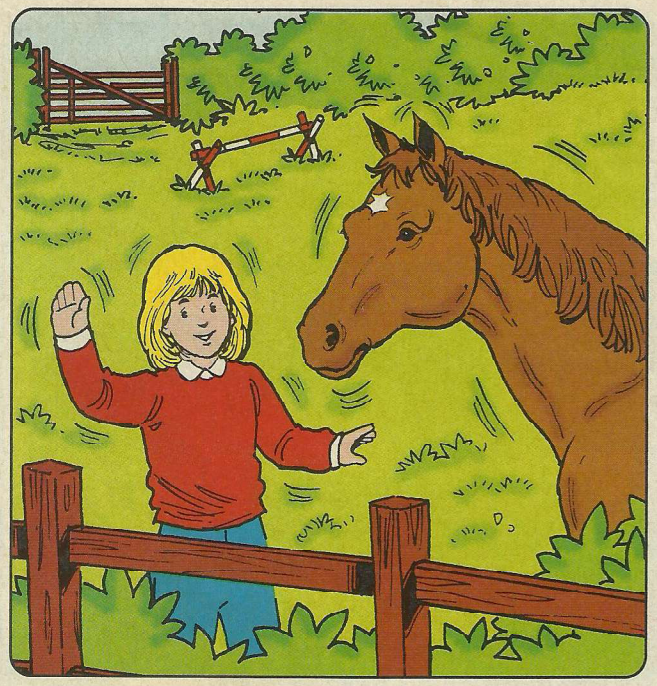
A RIDE FOR STAR!

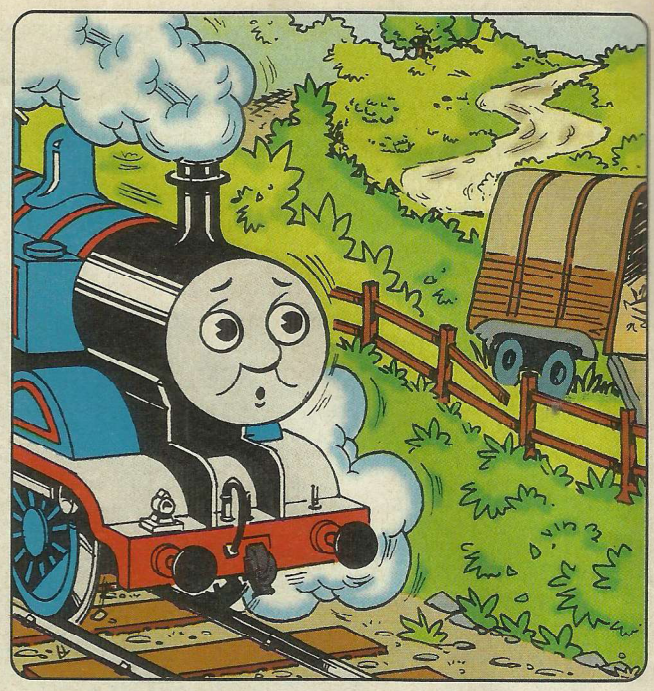


1. Along his branch line, Thomas often stopped to take on water at a station near a farm. He would whistle to greet his friend 'Star' the pony, who lived there.

2. Star belonged to Jenny, the farmer's daughter. Star was always happy to see Thomas and especially the carrot Thomas's driver brought him.

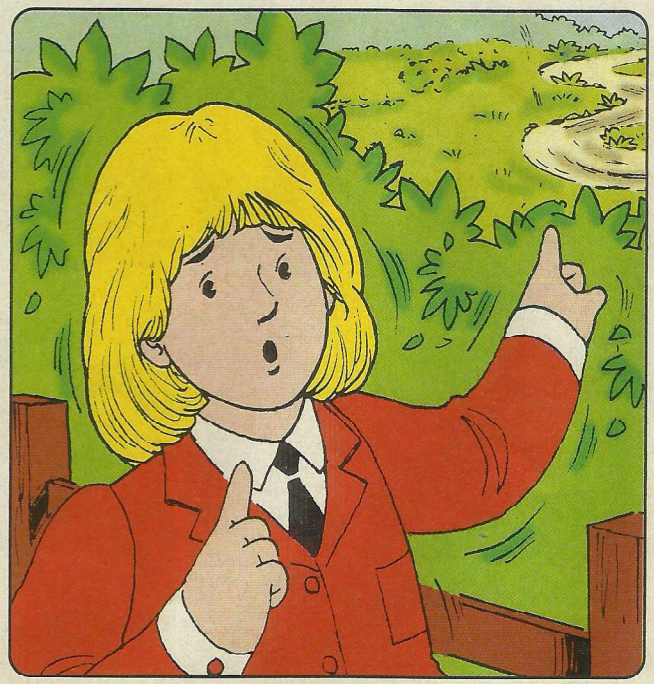


3. "I am entering Star in a riding competition!" Jenny explained. "How exciting!" thought Thomas as he puffed on his way. "I hope they win!"

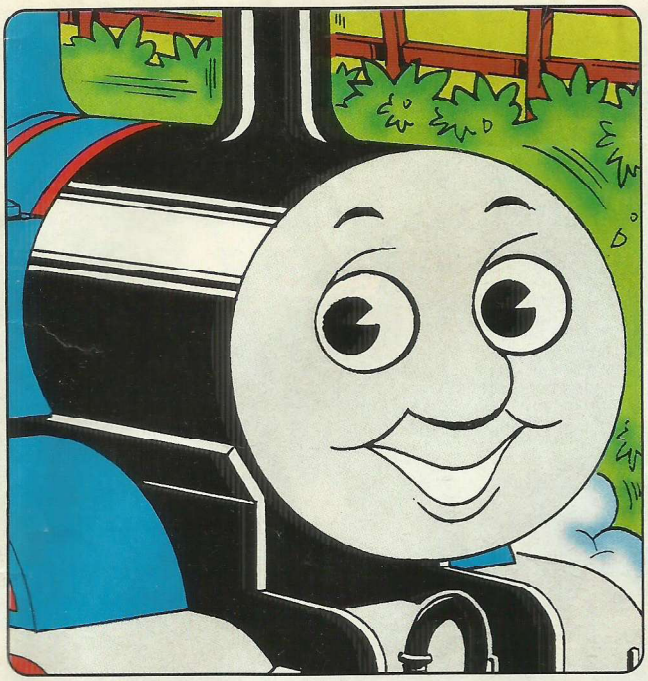


4. Next day, Thomas was working on his branch line when he suddenly braked hard. A car and horse-box had crashed through a hedge, and almost on to the line!

5. Thomas saw Jenny with her father. "A sheep ran in front of us and I had to swerve!" he called to Thomas's driver. "Star's bolted!" cried Jenny.

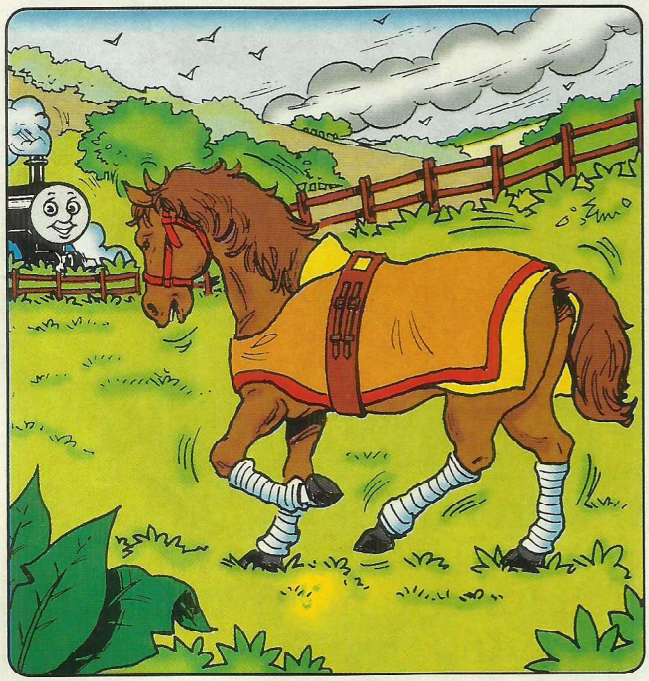


6. "We're all safe but the horse-box was damaged!" she went on. "Star's so frightened, we'll never catch him and we were off to the competition, too!"



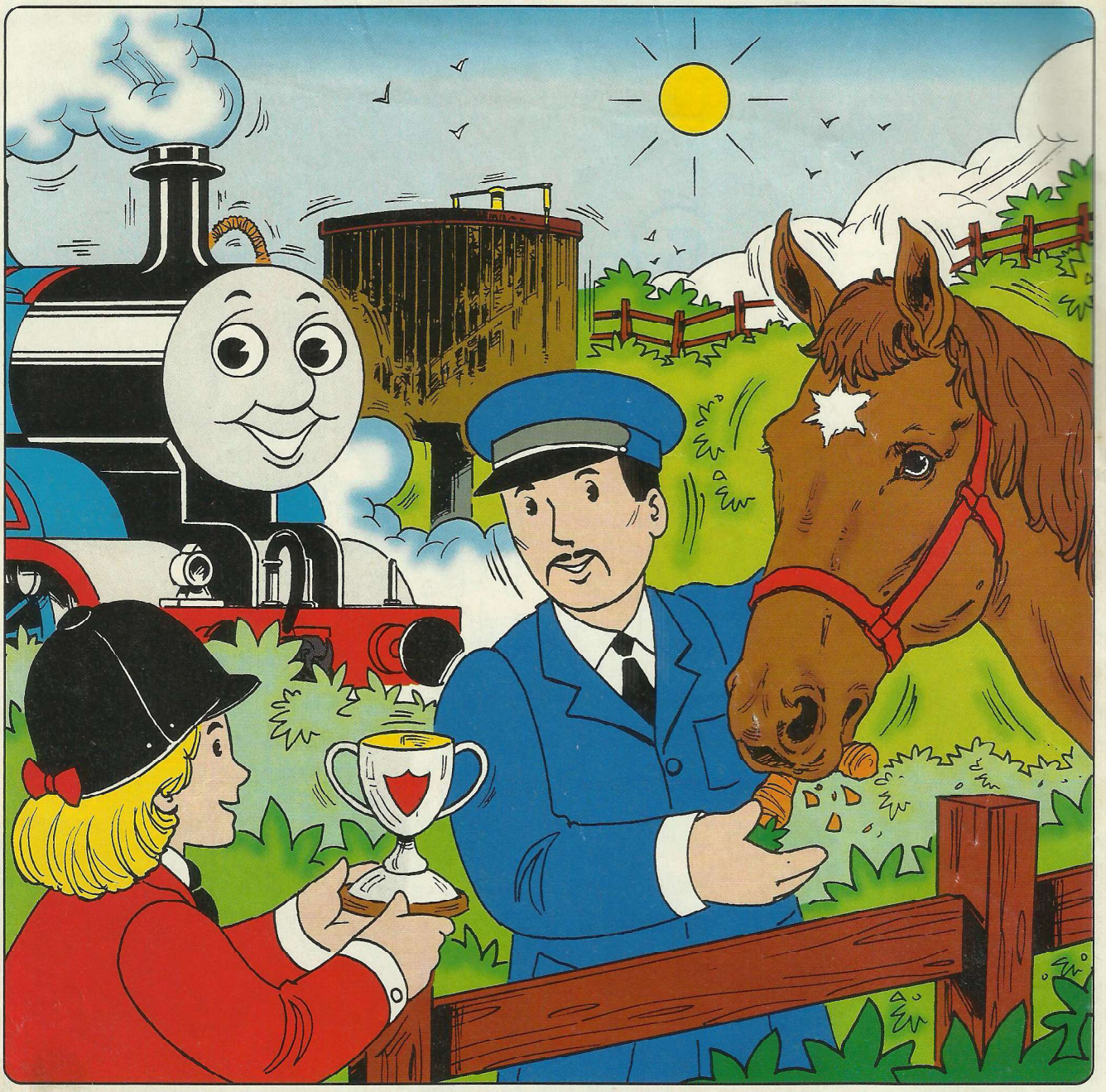
7. Thomas learned it was to be held farther along his branch line. Star had vanished but Thomas was pulling some empty trucks, and had a clever idea.

8. He told his driver, who persuaded Jenny's father to let her board Thomas's guard's van. "Don't worry! We may still catch Star!" said the driver, kindly.



9. Thomas had yet to stop at a station for water. He rolled along the track then pulled up, whistled and waited. Suddenly, Star appeared and ran towards him, as usual.

10. "I guessed he'd come for his carrot!" laughed Thomas. "We'll take Star to the competition in one of the empty trucks! It's on our way!" said his driver.



11. Jenny could hardly believe her good luck. Her father quickly joined them with straw from the horse-box to line the truck, so Star would be safe and comfortable in it. The pony seemed very happy to be led aboard. Then Thomas steamed along, until he arrived at the station by the riding competition.

12. Jenny thanked Thomas and hurried to take part with Star. Later that day, her father telephoned the Fat Controller to say what a helpful engine Thomas had been and that Star had won! Next day, Thomas greeted Star who enjoyed another carrot while Jenny happily showed Thomas's driver her silver cup! **THE END!**

In our next issue: Strange sighting!